Testimony of Robert G. La Camera, M.D.

Bill S.B. 830

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE USE OF CERTAIN OUTDOOR WOOD-BURNING FURNACES

To Chairs Senator Ed Meyer, Representative Richard Roy, Vice Chairs Senator Maynard and Representative Davis and Members of the Environment Committee:

Having served as a primary care pediatrician for 40 years with a sub-specialty in children with disabilities as a Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the Yale School of Medicine and in the Greater New Haven area, I am supporting Bill S.B. 830, an act prohibiting the use of certain outdoor wood-burning furnaces in the State of Connecticut.

I particularly am concerned that research reveals short-term exposures to wood smoke from outdoor wood boilers can result in asthma, bronchitis and pneumonia and long-term exposure can result in cardiovascular disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and cancer. These disease conditions can occur in otherwise healthy children and can also further threaten the health of children whose lives already are compromised by their additional diagnoses of disabilities.

I strongly support Bill S.B. 830.

February 9, 2011

Robert G. La Camera, M.D. Clinical Professor of Pediatrics, Yale School of Medicine 200 Leeder Hill Drive, unit 217 Hamden, CT 06517 (Phone) 203-248-3158 dr.lacamera@snet.net